AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for manufacturing adjustment shafts (1; 2) comprising a metallic shaft and a noise-abating, non-metallic external cladding (1.3; 2.3) situated between cladding-free shaft ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1), where, starting with a metallic shaft strand (3) continuously fitted with said external cladding, said cladding is removed in the zone (a; b) of the shaft ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1) by at least one externally applicable brush (4 or 5).

2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, where the external cladding (1.3; 2.3) is removed along the zone (a: b) of axially continuous shaft ends (1.2; 2.1) of two consecutive adjustment shafts (1; 2) and thereupon the shaft strand (3) is severed in a transition region of the shaft ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1).

3. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one brush (4 or 5), in particular in the form of a motor-driven rotary brush, is approached radially.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least

one externally and preferably radially approachable brush (4 or 5) is pivoted tangentially about the metallic shaft strand (3) in the sense of a progressive peripheral removal of the external cladding (1.3; 2.3) from said strand.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1,wherein the brush (4 or 5) is approached in a manner that the radial length of its bristles (4.1 or 5.1) operationally extends maximally as far as the peripheral surface of the bared shaft ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1).

6. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the shaft strand (3) is fitted in the region of the bared shaft-ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1) with a geometrically interlocking torque transmitting connector of which an outer contour deviates from the circular form and in particular is square.

7. – 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least one brush (4 or 5), in particular in the form of a motor-driven rotary brush, is approached radially.

13. – 14. (Cancelled)

15. (New) A adjustment shaft made by a process of: starting with a metallic shaft strand (3) continuously fitted with an external cladding, removing said cladding in the

zone (a; b) of the shaft ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1) by at least one externally applicable brush (4 or 5).

16. (New) A adjustment shaft (1; 2) comprising a metallic shaft and a noise-abating, non-metallic external cladding (1.3; 2.3) situated between cladding-free shaft ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1), made by the process of: starting with a metallic shaft strand (3) continuously fitted with said external cladding, removing said cladding the zone (a; b) of the shaft ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1) by at least one externally applicable brush (4 or 5).